

**First Regular Session
Sixty-eighth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 11-0610.01 Christy Chase

HOUSE BILL 11-1281

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joshi,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Boyd,

House Committees

Health and Environment
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL LOAN FORGIVENESS**
102 **PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE IN**
103 **THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Under current law, collegeinvest administers the nursing teacher loan forgiveness pilot program to assist nursing faculty in paying off student loans. Additionally, the Colorado commission on higher education (commission) administers the nursing faculty fellowship

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

program, which funds fellowships for persons employed in a nursing school teaching position.

The bill retains the authority of collegeinvest to administer remaining obligations under the current nursing teacher loan forgiveness program, eliminates the authority of collegeinvest to enter into any new loan repayment obligations under the nursing teacher loan forgiveness program, repeals the nursing faculty fellowship program, and expands the health professional loan repayment program, known as the Colorado health service corps, which is administered by the primary care office (office) in the department of public health and environment, to allow health care professional faculty members to obtain loan repayment through the Colorado health service corps.

The bill retains \$132,000 of the balance in the nursing teacher loan forgiveness fund for purposes of paying outstanding loan repayment obligations and transfers the remaining balance in the nursing teacher loan forgiveness fund to the general fund. Additionally, starting July 1, 2011, \$250,000 of the second tier of tobacco settlement moneys are annually allocated to the Colorado health service corps fund, and the current allocation to the short-term grants for innovative health program grant fund is reduced by a corresponding amount.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 25-20.5-604 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
3 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:

4 **25-20.5-604. Primary care office - powers and duties.** (1) The
5 primary care office shall have, at a minimum, the following powers and
6 duties:

7 (g) TO ADMINISTER NURSING AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL
8 FACULTY LOAN REPAYMENT PURSUANT TO PART 7 OF THIS ARTICLE.

9 **SECTION 2.** 25-20.5-701, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read:

11 **25-20.5-701. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
12 hereby finds that there are areas of Colorado that suffer from a lack of
13 health care professionals to serve, AND A LACK OF NURSING OR OTHER
14 HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY TO TRAIN HEALTH CARE

1 PROFESSIONALS TO MEET, the medical needs of communities. The general
2 assembly further finds that THE STATE NEEDS TO IMPLEMENT incentives
3 ~~are needed~~ to encourage health care professionals to practice in these
4 underserved areas AND TO ENCOURAGE NURSING FACULTY AND OTHER
5 HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY TO TEACH THESE HEALTH CARE
6 PROFESSIONALS.

7 (2) It is therefore the intent of the general assembly in enacting
8 this part 7 to create a state health service corps program that uses state
9 ~~and~~ MONEYS, federal moneys, WHEN PERMISSIBLE, and contributions from
10 communities and private sources to help repay the outstanding education
11 loans that many health care professionals, NURSING FACULTY, AND
12 HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY hold. In exchange for repayment
13 of ~~these~~ loans INCURRED FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING EDUCATION IN
14 THEIR CHOSEN HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS, the health care professionals
15 will commit to provide health care services in communities with
16 underserved health care needs throughout the state, AND THE NURSING
17 AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY WILL COMMIT TO PROVIDING
18 A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF SERVICE IN A QUALIFIED FACULTY POSITION.

19 **SECTION 3.** 25-20.5-702, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
20 amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW
21 SUBSECTIONS to read:

22 **25-20.5-702. Definitions.** As used in this part 7, unless the
23 context otherwise requires:

24 (3.5) "HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBER" MEANS A
25 PERSON WHO HAS AN ADVANCED DEGREE IN A HEALTH CARE
26 PROFESSIONAL FIELD AND IS EMPLOYED IN A QUALIFIED FACULTY
27 POSITION.

1 (6.5) "NURSING FACULTY MEMBER" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS AN
2 ADVANCED DEGREE IN NURSING AND IS EMPLOYED IN A QUALIFIED
3 FACULTY POSITION.

4 (9) "QUALIFIED FACULTY POSITION" MEANS A PART-TIME OR
5 FULL-TIME TEACHING POSITION AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION WITH
6 ACCREDITED NURSING OR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
7 PROGRAMS, WHICH POSITION REQUIRES AN ADVANCED DEGREE THAT
8 MEETS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS AND IS APPROVED BY THE
9 PRIMARY CARE OFFICE.

10 SECTION 4. 25-20.5-703 (1) (a) (I) (A), (1) (a) (II), (1) (b), (1)
11 (d), and (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said
12 25-20.5-703 (1) (a) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW
13 SUBPARAGRAPH, to read:

14 25-20.5-703. Colorado health service corps - program -
15 creation - conditions. (1) (a) (I) (A) Beginning July 1, 2009, the
16 primary care office shall maintain and administer, subject to available
17 appropriations, the Colorado health service corps. Subject to available
18 appropriations, the Colorado health service corps shall provide loan
19 repayment for certain eligible health care professionals who provide
20 primary health services. BEGINNING JULY 1, 2011, THE COLORADO
21 HEALTH SERVICE CORPS SHALL ALSO PROVIDE LOAN REPAYMENT FOR
22 CERTAIN ELIGIBLE NURSING FACULTY OR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL
23 FACULTY MEMBERS IN QUALIFIED FACULTY POSITIONS.

24 (II) Under the Colorado health service corps, subject to the
25 limitations specified in subsection (2) of this section, upon entering into
26 a loan contract, the state may either:

27 (A) Make payments on the education loans of the health care

1 professional, NURSING FACULTY MEMBER, OR HEALTH CARE
2 PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBER; or

3 (B) Agree to make an advance payment in a lump sum of all or
4 part of the principal, interest, and related expenses of the education loans
5 of health care professionals, NURSING FACULTY MEMBERS, OR HEALTH
6 CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS, subject to the limitations
7 specified in subsection (2) of this section.

8 (IV) IN CONSIDERATION FOR RECEIVING REPAYMENT OF ALL OR
9 PART OF HIS OR HER EDUCATION LOAN, THE NURSING OR OTHER HEALTH
10 CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBER SHALL AGREE TO SERVE TWO OR
11 MORE CONSECUTIVE ACADEMIC YEARS IN A QUALIFIED FACULTY POSITION.

12 (b) Repayment of loans under the Colorado health service corps
13 may be made using moneys in the Colorado health service corps fund.
14 The primary care office is authorized to receive and expend gifts, grants,
15 and donations or moneys appropriated by the general assembly for the
16 purpose of implementing the Colorado health service corps. In
17 administering the Colorado health service corps, the primary care office
18 shall collaborate with the university of Colorado health sciences center
19 and other appropriate partners as needed to maximize the federal moneys
20 available to the state for state loan repayment programs through the
21 federal department of health and human services. The selection of health
22 care professionals, NURSING FACULTY MEMBERS, AND HEALTH CARE
23 PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS for participation in the Colorado health
24 service corps is exempt from the competitive bidding requirements of the
25 "Procurement Code", articles 101 to 112 of title 24, C.R.S.

26 (d) (I) As a condition of receiving a loan repayment through the
27 Colorado health service corps, a health care professional shall enter into

1 a contract pursuant to which the health care professional ~~shall agree~~
2 AGREES to practice for at least two years in a community that is located
3 in a federally designated health professional shortage area. The health
4 care professional, the primary care office, and the community employer
5 with which the health care professional is practicing shall be parties to the
6 contract.

7 (II) AS A CONDITION OF RECEIVING A LOAN REPAYMENT THROUGH
8 THE COLORADO HEALTH SERVICE CORPS, A NURSING FACULTY OR HEALTH
9 CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBER SHALL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
10 PURSUANT TO WHICH HE OR SHE AGREES TO SERVE AT LEAST TWO
11 CONSECUTIVE ACADEMIC YEARS OR THEIR EQUIVALENT IN A QUALIFIED
12 FACULTY POSITION. THE NURSING FACULTY OR HEALTH CARE
13 PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBER, THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE, AND THE
14 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION WHERE THE QUALIFIED FACULTY POSITION IS
15 LOCATED SHALL BE PARTIES TO THE CONTRACT.

16 (2) Subject to available appropriations, the primary care office
17 shall annually select health care professionals, NURSING FACULTY
18 MEMBERS, AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS from the list
19 provided by the advisory council pursuant to section 25-20.5-704 (6) to
20 participate in the Colorado health service corps.

21 **SECTION 5.** 25-20.5-703, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
22 amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW
23 SUBSECTIONS to read:

24 **25-20.5-703. Colorado health service corps - program -**
25 **creation - conditions.** (2.5) THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE, AFTER
26 CONSULTING WITH THE ADVISORY COUNCIL AND ACCREDITED HEALTH
27 CARE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE STATE, SHALL DEVELOP

1 LOAN FORGIVENESS CRITERIA FOR NURSING FACULTY AND OTHER HEALTH
2 CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS. IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO
3 FORGIVE THE LOAN OF A FACULTY MEMBER, THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE
4 SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

5 (a) THE FACULTY POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT THE EDUCATIONAL
6 INSTITUTION AT WHICH THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL WORKS;

7 (b) DOCUMENTED RECRUITING EFFORTS BY THE EDUCATIONAL
8 INSTITUTION;

9 (c) THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE EDUCATIONAL OR TRAINING PROGRAM
10 THAT ARE DESIGNED WITH THE INTENT TO ADDRESS KNOWN SHORTAGES
11 OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS IN COLORADO;

12 (d) THE TYPE OF PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE EDUCATIONAL
13 INSTITUTION, INCLUDING ASSOCIATE, BACHELOR'S, MASTER'S, OR
14 DOCTORAL DEGREES IN THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS, AND THE NEED
15 FOR THOSE PROGRAMS IN THE STATE.

16 (2.7) IN SOLICITING PRIVATE GRANTS TO FUND LOAN REPAYMENTS,
17 THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO SOLICITING GRANTS
18 TO FUND REPAYMENTS OF LOANS FOR NURSING FACULTY.

19 **SECTION 6.** The introductory portion to 25-20.5-704 (3) and
20 25-20.5-704 (3) (d) and (6), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and
21 the said 25-20.5-704 (3) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF
22 THE FOLLOWING NEW PARAGRAPHS, to read:

23 **25-20.5-704. Colorado health service corps advisory council**
24 **- creation - membership - duties - repeal.** (3) On and after July 1,
25 2009, in addition to the members specified in subsection (2) of this
26 section, the governor shall appoint REPRESENTATIVES to the advisory
27 council ~~at least one representative from each of the following~~

1 ~~organizations~~ AS FOLLOWS:

2 (c.5) AT LEAST TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF A PROFESSIONAL
3 ORGANIZATION, DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THAT REPRESENTS
4 NURSES IN COLORADO;

5 (d) ~~An~~ AT LEAST TWO advanced practice ~~nurse~~ NURSES IN
6 FACULTY POSITIONS AT NO LESS THAN TWO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
7 WITH HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS, EACH OF WHOM IS licensed
8 to practice in Colorado;

9 (d.5) AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE IN A FACULTY POSITION AT
10 A TWO-YEAR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION WITH HEALTH CARE
11 PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS WHO IS LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN COLORADO;

12 (6) The advisory council shall review applications received from
13 health care professionals, NURSING FACULTY MEMBERS, AND HEALTH
14 CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS to participate in the Colorado
15 health service corps. Subject to available appropriations and federal
16 requirements concerning eligibility for federal loan repayment matching
17 funds, the advisory council shall annually select health care professionals,
18 NURSING FACULTY MEMBERS, AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL FACULTY
19 MEMBERS to participate in the Colorado health service corps and shall
20 forward its list of selected participants to the primary care office.

21 **SECTION 7.** The introductory portion to 25-20.5-705 (1) and
22 25-20.5-705 (1) (d) and (1) (e), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended,
23 and the said 25-20.5-705 (1) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF
24 A NEW PARAGRAPH, to read:

25 **25-20.5-705. Advisory council - report.** (1) On or before
26 December 1, 2011, and on or before December 1 every two years
27 thereafter, the advisory council shall submit to the governor, ~~and~~ the

1 health and human services ~~committees~~ COMMITTEE of the senate, and THE
2 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE house of representatives,
3 or any successor committees, a report that includes, at a minimum, the
4 following information:

5 (d) An analysis of the impact of the Colorado health service corps
6 program; ~~and~~

7 (e) If applicable, results of any surveys conducted of state health
8 professional incentive programs in primary care and any
9 recommendations to individually enhance, improve coordination among,
10 and potentially consolidate existing or potential programs to better
11 address Colorado's primary care workforce issues; AND

12 (f) THE NUMBER OF NURSING FACULTY OR OTHER HEALTH CARE
13 PROFESSIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE MONEYS FROM THE
14 COLORADO HEALTH SERVICE CORPS AND THE NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL
15 INSTITUTIONS WHERE THE RECIPIENTS TEACH.

16 **SECTION 8.** The introductory portion to 25-20.5-706 (1) and
17 25-20.5-706 (1) (a), (1) (c), and (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, are
18 amended to read:

19 **25-20.5-706. Colorado health service corps fund - created -**
20 **acceptance of grants and donations - repeal.** (1) The Colorado health
21 service corps fund is hereby created in the state treasury, which fund ~~shall~~
22 ~~consist~~ CONSISTS of:

23 (a) All GENERAL FUND moneys appropriated by the general
24 assembly for the Colorado health service corps, THE FIRST FIVE HUNDRED
25 THOUSAND DOLLARS OF WHICH SHALL BE USED SOLELY FOR LOAN
26 REPAYMENTS FOR NURSING FACULTY;

27 (c) ~~Moneys~~ FOR THE 2011-12 FISCAL YEAR AND EACH FISCAL YEAR

1 THEREAFTER, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS transferred from
2 the short-term innovative health program grant fund pursuant to section
3 ~~25-36-101 (10)~~ 24-75-1104.5 (1.5) (a) (XI), C.R.S.;

4 (2) (a) The moneys in the fund, other than any federal moneys
5 credited to the fund AND THE MONEYS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (c) OF
6 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, are hereby continuously appropriated
7 to the primary care office for the Colorado health service corps. Any
8 moneys in the fund not expended for the purpose of this part 7 may be
9 invested by the state treasurer as provided by law. All interest and
10 income derived from the investment and deposit of moneys in the fund
11 shall be credited to the fund. Any unexpended and unencumbered
12 moneys remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain in
13 the fund and shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund or
14 another fund.

15 (b) THE MONEYS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (c) OF SUBSECTION (1)
16 OF THIS SECTION ARE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE FOR THE COLORADO
18 HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.

19 **SECTION 9.** 23-3.6-102 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
20 amended to read:

21 **23-3.6-102. Nursing teacher loan forgiveness pilot program -**
22 **administration - fund - conditions.** (1) (a) The general assembly
23 hereby authorizes collegeinvest to develop and maintain a nursing teacher
24 loan forgiveness pilot program for implementation beginning in the fall
25 semester of the 2006-07 academic year. The program shall provide for
26 payment of up to twenty thousand dollars for all or part of the principal
27 of and interest on a qualified loan if the person is hired for a qualified

1 position and stays in a qualified position for a period of not less than five
2 consecutive academic years after the person earned an advanced degree
3 in nursing. Repayment of loans through the program may be made using
4 moneys in the nursing teacher loan forgiveness fund, created in paragraph
5 (b) of this subsection (1), or moneys allocated to the program by
6 collegeinvest. Collegeinvest is authorized to receive and expend gifts,
7 grants, and donations or moneys appropriated by the general assembly for
8 the purpose of implementing the program. ON AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE
9 DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (1), AS AMENDED, COLLEGEINVEST SHALL NOT
10 ENTER INTO ANY NEW CONTRACTS TO PROVIDE LOAN REPAYMENTS TO OR
11 FOR THE BENEFIT OF A NURSING TEACHER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

12 (b) There is hereby created in the state treasury the nursing teacher
13 loan forgiveness fund, which shall consist of all moneys appropriated by
14 the general assembly for the program and any gifts, grants, and donations
15 received for said purpose. Moneys in the fund are hereby continuously
16 appropriated to the department of higher education for the program. Any
17 moneys in the fund not expended for the purpose of this part 1 may be
18 invested by the state treasurer as provided by law. All interest and
19 income derived from the investment and deposit of moneys in the fund
20 shall be credited to the fund. At the end of any fiscal year, all
21 unexpended and unencumbered moneys in the fund shall remain in the
22 fund and shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund or any
23 other fund; EXCEPT THAT, ON JUNE 30, 2011, THE STATE TREASURER
24 SHALL TRANSFER ANY BALANCE IN THE FUND IN EXCESS OF TWO
25 HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE FUND TO THE
26 GENERAL FUND, AND COLLEGEINVEST SHALL USE THE TWO HUNDRED
27 TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS REMAINING IN THE FUND ON JUNE 30,

1 2011, TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO BY OR ON
2 BEHALF OF COLLEGEINVEST PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
3 SUBSECTION (1), AS AMENDED, AND TO COVER ITS COSTS IN
4 ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM.

5 **SECTION 10. Repeal.** Article 19 of title 23, Colorado Revised
6 Statutes, is repealed.

7 **SECTION 11.** 24-75-1104.5 (1.5) (a) (IX), Colorado Revised
8 Statutes, is amended, and the said 24-75-1104.5 (1.5) (a) is further
9 amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBPARAGRAPH, to read:

10 **24-75-1104.5. Use of settlement moneys - programs - repeal.**
11 (1.5) (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (5) and (6) of this
12 section, for the 2007-08 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, the
13 following programs, services, and funds shall receive the following
14 specified amounts from the portion of any settlement moneys received
15 and allocated by the state in the current fiscal year that remains after the
16 programs, services, and funds receiving such moneys pursuant to
17 subsection (1) of this section have been fully funded, and the portion of
18 all other settlement moneys received by the state in the preceding fiscal
19 year that remains after the programs, services, and funds receiving such
20 other settlement moneys pursuant to subsection (1) of this section have
21 been fully funded and all overexpenditures and supplemental
22 appropriations allowed for the 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, or 2009-10
23 fiscal years pursuant to section 24-22-115 (4) have been made:

24 (IX) The short-term innovative health program grant fund created
25 in section 25-36-101 (2), C.R.S., shall receive six percent of the
26 settlement moneys, which the state treasurer shall transfer thereto, plus
27 additional moneys as specified in section 24-22-115 (1) (b) and paragraph

1 (b) of this subsection (1.5); EXCEPT THAT, FOR THE 2011-12 FISCAL YEAR
2 AND FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO
3 THE SHORT-TERM INNOVATIVE HEALTH PROGRAM GRANT FUND PURSUANT
4 TO THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (IX) IS REDUCED BY TWO HUNDRED FIFTY
5 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

6 (XI) FOR THE 2011-12 FISCAL YEAR AND EACH FISCAL YEAR
7 THEREAFTER, THE COLORADO HEALTH SERVICE CORPS FUND CREATED IN
8 SECTION 25-20.5-706, C.R.S., SHALL RECEIVE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY
9 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

10 **SECTION 12.** 25-36-101 (10) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read:

12 **25-36-101. Short-term grants for innovative health programs**
13 **- grant fund - creation - appropriation from fund - transfer of**
14 **moneys for fiscal years 2007-08 through 2011-12.**

15 (10) (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, for the
16 2009-10 AND 2010-11 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter
17 through the 2011-12 fiscal year YEARS, the state treasurer shall transfer
18 from the short-term innovative health program grant fund to the Colorado
19 health service corps fund created in section 25-20.5-706, for purposes of
20 the Colorado health service corps, the lesser of ninety thousand seventy
21 dollars or six percent of the amount allocated to the short-term innovative
22 health program grant fund for the fiscal year pursuant to section
23 24-75-1104.5 (1.5) (a) (IX), C.R.S., enacted by Senate Bill 07-097 at the
24 first regular session of the sixty-sixth general assembly.

25 **SECTION 13.** 23-3.1-206 (1) (y), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
26 amended to read:

27 **23-3.1-206. General powers and duties of the authority.** (1) In

1 addition to any other powers and duties specifically granted to the
2 authority in this part 2, the authority has the following powers:

3 (y) To develop and administer loan forgiveness programs.
4 ~~including those established under article 3.6 of this title.~~

5 **SECTION 14. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
6 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
7 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.